

Message Text

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C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 171107

FOLLOWING STATE 171107 DATED 7/10/76 SENT ACTION BUDAPEST REPEATED
FOR YOUR ACTION

QUOTE:

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 171107

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: HU PFOR

SUBJ: HUNGARIAN AMBASSADOR CALLS ON ASSISTANT SECRETARY
HARTMAN

1. IN PREPARATION FOR HIS JULY 20 DEPARTURE FOR BUDAPEST ON
LEAVE AND CONSULTATION, AMBASSADOR ESZTERGALYOS CALLED ON
ASSISTANT SECRETARY HARTMAN JULY 8. ESZTERGALYOS NOTED
THAT HE HAS ARRANGED TO MEET WITH DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER
SZEKER TO REVIEW THE STATUS OF US-HUNGARIAN RELATIONS.
ESZTERGALYOS MENTIONED THAT THE MOST IMPORTANT QUESTION
WAS HOW TO GO FURTHER IN OUR RELATIONSHIP. THE RECENT
PAST HAD DEMONSTRATED THAT THE STEP-BY-STEP APPROACH WORKS
BEST.

2. OECD/EAST-WEST INITIATIVE. AFTER STATING THAT MANY
OPPORTUNITIES FOR EXPANDED RELATIONS EXIST IN THE ECO-
NOMICS FIELD, ESZTERGALYOS NOTED THAT MANY OBSERVERS
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EXPRESSED SURPRISE AT THE U.S. STATEMENTS AT THE OECD

MINISTERIAL, WHICH APPEARED TO SUGGEST BRAKING OR STOPPING THE DEVELOPMENT OF EAST-WEST ECONOMIC RELATIONS. MR. HARTMAN EMPHASIZED THAT THIS WAS DEFINITELY NOT OUR INTENTION, RATHER THIS REPRESENTS AN EFFORT, IN THE LIGHT OF DEVELOPING EAST-WEST ECONOMIC RELATIONS, TO THINK SERIOUSLY ABOUT HOW TO DEAL WITH COMMON PROBLEMS. WE VIEW DISCUSSIONS OF A COMMON APPROACH ON ECONOMIC PROBLEMS IN DEALING WITH NON-MARKET ECONOMIES AS A POSITIVE DEVELOPMENT AIMED AT ENHANCING OUR RELATIONS WITH HUNGARY AND ITS NEIGHBORS.

3. CULTURAL/SCIENTIFIC AGREEMENT. ESZTERGALYOS IS HOPEFUL THAT THE AGREEMENT WILL BE SIGNED IN THE FALL. HE SUGGESTED THAT THE DIFFERENCES NOW SEEM MINOR AND OF A TECHNICAL NATURE. IT SHOULD NOW BE POSSIBLE TO BRIDGE THESE DIFFERENCES AND BEGIN TO WORK ON ACTUAL COOPERATIVE PROJECTS IN SUCH AREAS AS AGRICULTURE. MR. HARTMAN DISCUSSED OUR CONTINUING INTEREST IN ADDRESSING DIRECT CONTACT AMONG INDIVIDUALS IN THE AGREEMENT. HE ASKED ESZTERGALYOS TO LOOK INTO THE AGREEMENT WHILE HE WAS IN BUDAPEST, NOTING THAT IT WOULD BE USEFUL TO HAVE MFA PUSH KKI ALONG. ESZTERGALYOS REPLIED THAT MINISTER NAGY IS DOING THIS, BUT THAT HE ALSO PLANNED TO SEE ROSTA.

4. POLITICAL DIALOGUE. AMBASSADOR ESZTERGALYOS STRESSED THE NECESSITY FOR DEVELOPMENT OF RELATIONS ON THE POLITICAL LEVEL. HE HAS EMPHASIZED THIS IN HIS MEETINGS WITH CONGRESSMEN, WHOM HE HAS INVITED TO VISIT HUNGARY. OF COURSE, THE ELECTION PERIOD LIMITS THE POSSIBILITY FOR OFFICIAL VISITORS. MR HARTMAN SAID THAT HE HOPED TO VISIT BUDAPEST AND THAT HIS RECENT CONVERSATIONS WITH SECRETARY RICHARDSON INDICATED THAT RICHARDSON WOULD LIKE TO GO TO HUNGARY AFTER THE ELECTIONS. ESZTERGALYOS REPLIED THAT MINISTER NAGY WISHES PERSONALLY TO SEE MR HARTMAN IN BUDAPEST AND THAT A VISIT BY SECRETARY RICHARDSON WOULD BE A GOOD FOLLOW UP TO THE SZEKER VISIT. SZEKER HAD RESTATED HIS INVITATION IN A RECENT LETTER TO RICHARDSON. ESZTERGALYOS THEN SUGGESTED THAT THERE WAS NOW A CERTAIN MOMENTUM GENERATED BY THE SZEKER VISIT AND THAT A NEW AMBASSADOR WAS NECESSARY TO TAKE FULL

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ADVANTAGE OF IT. THE LONGER HIS ASSIGNMENT IS POSTPONED, THE LESS WILL BE THE MOMENTUM. MR HARTMAN INDICATED THAT HE IS PERSONALLY PRESSING THIS AND HOPES TO HAVE SOME WORD SOON. KISSINGER UNQUOTE KISSINGER

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